LIBRARY JOURNAL

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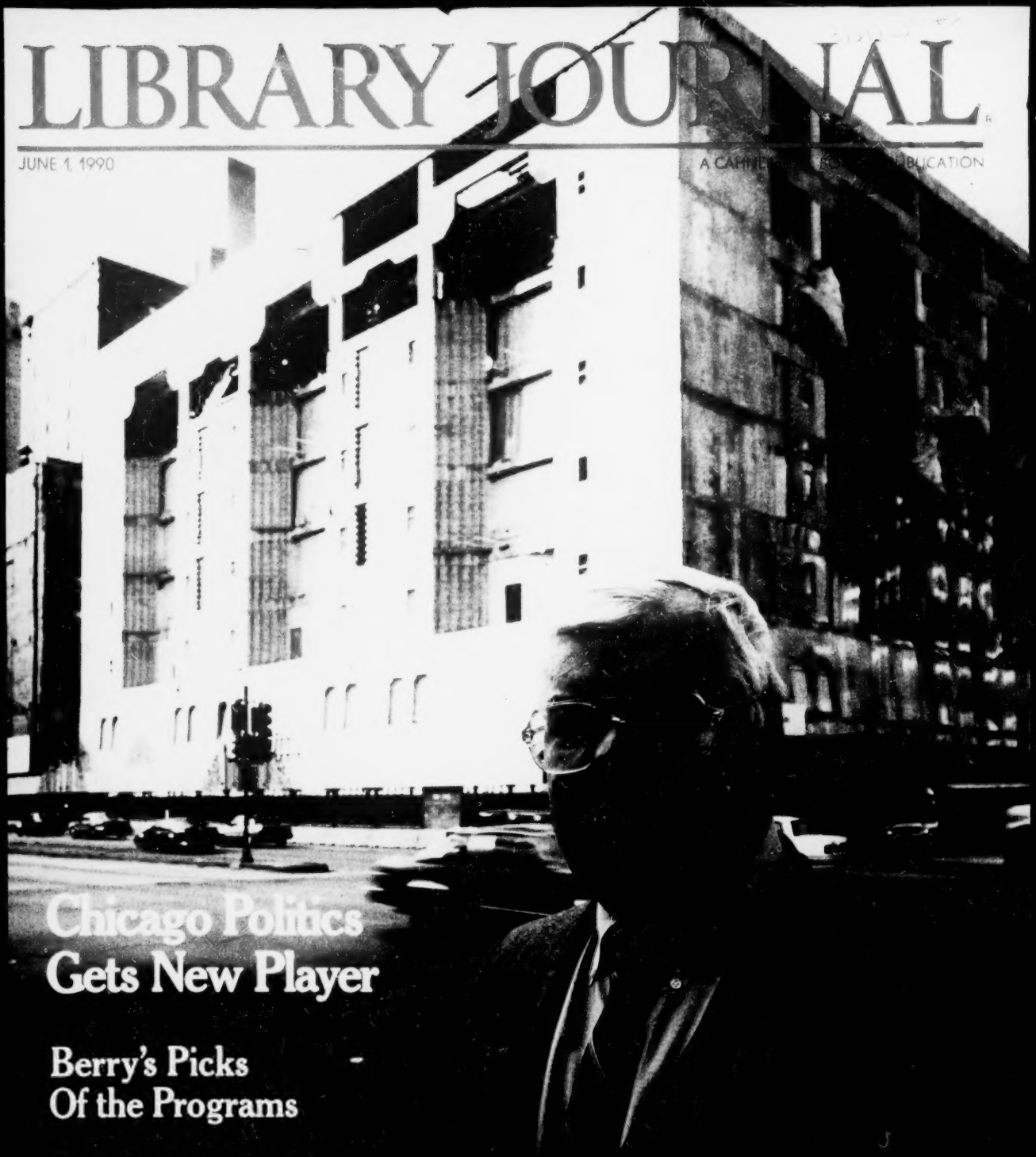

Chicago Politics Gets New Player

Berry's Picks Of the Programs

Windy City Food

Sources for A Small Planet

John B. Duff
Commissioner
Chicago Public Library

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VOL. 115 No. 10

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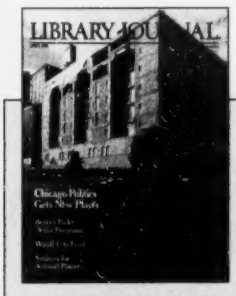

Commissioner John Duff is proud of the Chicago that conferees will see during the 109th Annual ALA Conference. But there's more than meets the eye; see his article on page 58.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ARNOLD ZANN/BLACK STAR

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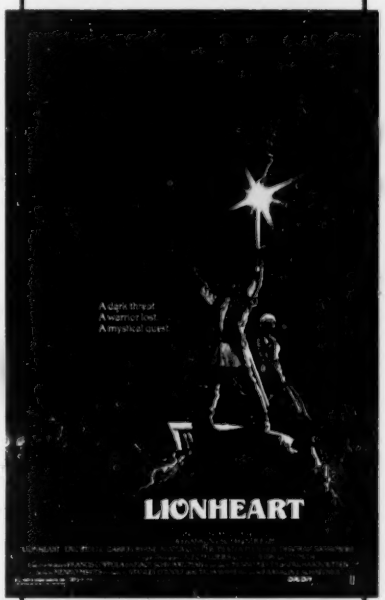

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LIBRARY MARKET OUTLOOK

BY DEBORAH SELSKY

Public Library Payroll Increased 9.3 Percent Per Year Through 1980s

American public libraries employed over 128,000 people in 1988 according to the Commerce Department's annual survey of government employment. The federal sector accounted for 5000 of these library jobs. State governments employed 686 library personnel, and local governments employed 122,328. Local government library employment is divided among municipal (48 percent), county (25 percent), township (eight percent), school districts (four percent), and special districts (15 percent).

Library salaries on the rise

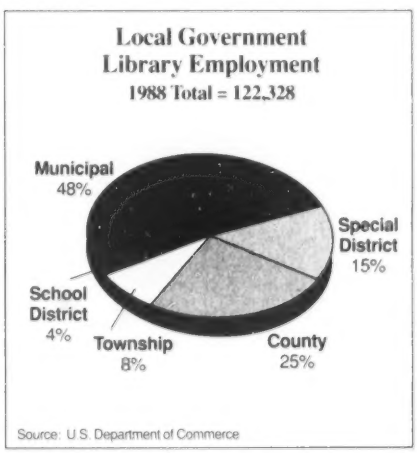
While employment growth has been slower, state and local library payrolls have been increasing faster than those for all state and local government employees. From 1980–1988, library payrolls have increased by 9.3 percent per year, as compared to 7.5 percent annual increases for all government employees.

Unfortunately, the Commerce Department does not distinguish between librarians, paraprofessionals, and clerical workers, making the statistics difficult to interpret. However, the increasing payroll and smaller growth rate of numbers of employees indicate that library salaries are growing at a faster pace than those of other government employees. This may indicate that former inequities are beginning to be addressed.

Library Salaries—Top Ten States, 1988 (Full-time Equivalent Employees)

State	# Employees	Salary
Alaska	280	$25,114
D.C.	431	24,752
California	11,168	21,683
Maryland	2,584	21,539
Michigan	4,408	21,302
Washington	2,502	21,127
Arizona	990	20,376
New York	6,564	20,320
Pennsylvania	2,004	20,090
Minnesota	2,226	19,865

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce



From 1980–1988, employment growth in libraries averaged 3.0 percent per year, slower than the 3.4 percent growth rate of all state and local government employees. Most of the growth in library employment occurred within part-time positions. Full-time employment increased only 2.2 percent per year during this period, while full-time equivalent employment—the number of full-time employees (FTEs) that could have been employed based on total hours worked—increased an average 4.0 percent per year.

FTEs represent three-quarters of all library employees and receive 83 percent of the total payroll. This proportion has been on the decline. Over the past decade, the size of the payroll for FTEs grew at a slower pace (9.1 percent annually) than the payroll for part-time employees (10.2 percent annually). Earnings of part-time employees increased only 5.1 percent per year from 1980–1988. In comparison, annual earnings of FTEs increased 6.3 percent on average. On average, FTE salaries ran 9.0 percent higher than full-time equivalent salaries in 1988.

Regional variations

Total government employment per 10,000 population stood at 504.6 in 1988; there were 3.7 public library jobs for every 10,000 population. The highest concentration of public employment was in the Northeast, with employment per 10,000 of the population at 522.6, while the Midwest had the lowest concentration at 482.9. In terms of public library jobs, however, the Midwest actually had the highest concentration, while the South had the lowest concentration.

Average annual salaries also vary a great deal by location (Library Market Outlook, *LJ*, October 15, 1989, p. 26). FTEs in the West earn the highest average annual salaries at $20,577. In the Midwest—the lowest-paying region—the average salary is $17,520. For all public employment, the West is also the highest-paying region, while the South is actually the lowest-paying region.

By state, average annual library salaries for FTEs range as high as $25,114 in Alaska and as low as $11,745 in Arkansas. Again, the Commerce Department does not differentiate professional levels of library workers, so the information is only useful for general comparisons. The *LJ* survey and the ALA annual survey of librarian's salaries (1990 edition should be available from ALA soon) are more useful for more specific comparisons.

Deborah Selsky is an economist with Cahners Economics, which provides industry analyses and forecasting services for the markets its magazines serve

CALENDAR

Annual Georgia Archives Institute, Conference for Library Assistants, The 83rd Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries

JUNE

11-22—24th Annual Georgia Archives Institute, Atlanta. An introduction to archives administration. General instruction in basic concepts and practices of archival administration and management of traditional and modern documentary materials. Fee: $400. Contact: Dr. Patrice McDermott, School of Library and Information Studies, Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA 30314.

12-13—Fourth Annual Conference for Library Assistants, Seton Hall University, South Orange, N.J. Workshop topics include: Public Image of the Paraprofessional, Inter-Cultural Differences, Marketing Your Library Thru Book Displays and Bulletin Boards, Assertiveness Workshops, Stress Workshops, Communication Between Public and School Libraries, Safety in the Library, Outreach Libraries Are More Than Books, Problem Patrons, Communication Within Main Library and Branches, Negotiations and Contracts, Self-Esteem Workshop. Contact: Rosemary Kaiser or Fran Oakes, Clifton Public Library, 201-772-5500; AnnaMarie Kehnast, Gloucester County College, 609-468-5000, x325.

16-21—The 83rd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries, Minneapolis. Two three-day institutes precede the meeting: "Financial Management of Law Libraries," Hamline University; "International, Foreign and Comparative Law," University of Minnesota. Five one-day workshops will be held in conjunction: "The Creation and Use of In-House Databases," "Law Serials Management," "Library of Congress 'Law of Europe' Classification Schedule," "Teaching for Learning—Improving Your Teaching Skills," and "Supervisory Training—The Legal Issues." Contact: The American Association of Law Libraries, 53 W. Jackson Boulevard, Suite 940, Chicago, IL 60604; 312-939-4764.

20—Dun & Bradstreet Online Training Sessions, New York. Fee: Free. Seminars are on first come, first served basis. **June 26**, Cincinnati. To register, call 800-233-1026.

21-22—The 12th Annual New York State Library Assistants Conference, Tompkins Cortland Community College, Dryden, N.Y. Open Forum with the Executive Council of the association. Contact: Barbara Greene and Janice Lawrence, Tompkins Cortland Community Coll., 170 N. St., Dryden, NY 13053; 607-844-8211.

22—The Association for Library Collections and Technical Services, American Library Association Annual Conference, Chicago. Theme: "Preservation Issues in Collection Management." Limited to 100 persons. Fee: $95 for ALA/ALCTS members; $125, ALA personal members; $160, nonmembers. Contact: ALCTS, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; 800-545-2433, x5035.

JULY

13-16—Study Conference: V.I.P. 25 Years of Library Service to Visually Impaired Persons, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, Wales. Theme: "Library Services to the Visually Impaired." Fee: £45 (pounds sterling). Includes: three nights accommodation in a single study bedroom and all meals through lunch Monday, July 16. Contact: The conference secretary, V.I.P. Conference, Ulverscroft Large Print Books Ltd., The Green, Bradgate Rd., Anstey, Leicester, LE7 7FU; (0533) 36425; FAX (0533) 340205.

NATIONAL/ INTERNATIONAL

American Association of Law Libraries: Minneapolis, Jun. 16-21; New Orleans, Jul. 21-24, 1991.

American LA: Chicago, Jun. 23-28; Atlanta, Jun. 29-Jul. 4, 1991. **Midwinter:** Chicago, Jan. 12-17, 1991.

American Society for Information Science: Toronto, Nov. 4-8

American Theological LA: Evanston, Ill., Jun. 25-30.

Asian Pacific Special and Law Librarians: Adelaide, Australia, Aug. 6-11.

Association of Jewish Libraries: Washington, D.C, Jun. 18-21.

British LA Conference and Exhibition: Brighton, United Kingdom, Sept. 4-7.

Canadian LA: Ottawa, Ontario, Jun. 13-17.

Church and Synagogue LA: Portland, Oreg., Jul. 1-3.

Guadalajara International Book Fair: Guadalajara, Mexico, Nov. 24-Dec. 2.

International Conference of Judaica and Israeli Librarians: Jerusalem, Jul. 3-5.

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions: Stockholm, Sweden, Aug. 18-24.

Public LA: San Diego, Mar. 20-23, 1991.

Special LA: Pittsburgh, Jun. 9-14.

White House Conference on Library and Information Services: Washington, D.C., Jul. 9-13, 1991.

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